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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/767,176	01/22/2001	Yasuyuki Murakami		1997

26021 7590 07/13/2004

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EXAMINER	
NALVEN, ANDREW L	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2134	6

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/767,176	MURAKAMI, YASUYUKI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Andrew L Nalven	2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *22 January 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-10* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-10* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *22 January 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *3,5*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-10 are pending.

2. Information disclosure statements submitted 22 January 2001 and 9 February 2004 have been received and considered. Applicant's submission of Japanese patent documents only included English translations of the abstracts. Accordingly, only the translated abstracts have been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Iwamura et al US Patent No 5,966,449. Iwamura discloses a method for communicating between a group of entities a text encrypted using an encryption key intrinsic to the group of entities.

3. With regards to claims 1, 3 and 9-10, Iwamura teaches the dividing of identification information of one entity into a plurality of blocks to obtain divided identification information (Iwamura, column 9 lines 27-30 and 54-57, column 9 lines 9-

11, "Kij"), the generating of secret keys of the one entity by using the respective divided identification information (Iwamura, column 9 lines 54-57 and column 8 lines 53-54), extracting components corresponding to other entity as a communicating party from the generated secret keys of the one entity (Iwamura, column 10 lines 5-14), and generating a common key by performing composition of the extracted components after converting the extracted components to increase the number of bits thereof (Iwamura, column 10 lines 5-14, column 8 lines 8-11, "function f").

4. With regards to claims 2, 4 and 7, Iwamura teaches a shift composition used in performing composition of the extracted components after converting the extracted components to increase the number of bits thereof (Iwamura, column 10 lines 57-65).

5. With regards to claim 5, Iwamura teaches all that is described above and further teaches the encrypting of plaintext into ciphertext using the generated common key (Iwamura, column 8 lines 13-23).

6. With regards to claims 6 and 8, Iwamura teaches the sending of secret keys generated using respective divided identification information obtained by dividing identification information of each entity into a plurality of blocks to each of the first and second entities from a plurality of key generating agencies (Iwamura, column 12 lines 24-42), the first entity generating a first common key by extracting components corresponding to the second entity as a destination of the ciphertext from the respective secrets keys of the first entity sent from the respective key generating agencies and performing composition of the extracted components after converting the extracted components to increase the number of bits thereof (Iwamura, column 12 lines 43-45),

the first entity encrypting a plaintext into a ciphertext by using the generated first common key and transmitting the ciphertext to the second entity (Iwamura, column 12 lines 45-47), the second entity generating a second common key identical with the first common key by extracting components corresponding to the first entity from the respective secret keys of the second entity sent from the respective key generating agencies and performing composition of the extracted components after converting the extracted components to increase the number of bits thereof (Iwamura, column 12 lines 65-67, lines 40-42), and the second entity decrypting the transmitted ciphertext into plaintext by using the generated second common key (Iwamura, column 12 lines 65-67).

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

8. Nakai US Patent No. 4, 760,600 discloses a cipher system.

9. Tanaka US Patent No. 5,251,258 discloses a key distribution system for distributing a cipher key between two subsystems by one-way communication.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew L Nalven whose telephone number is 703 305 8407. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8-6, Alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Morse can be reached on 703 308 4789. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Andrew Nalven

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